

1. A knee airbag assembly, comprising:
- an inflatable fabric cushion having a first side and a second side, the first and second sides being opposite each other;
- a loop being formed in the fabric of the first side;
- 5 a loop being formed in the fabric of the second side; and
- a first tether located on an internal side of the inflatable cushion, the first internal tether attached to and interconnecting the loop on the first side and the loop on the second side.
- 10 2. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the inflatable cushion is formed from one continuous sheet of fabric material.
3. The airbag assembly of claim 1, further comprising a tether located on an external side of the inflatable cushion, the external tether being attached to the fabric of
- 15 the second side of the inflatable cushion.
4. The airbag assembly of claim 3, wherein the external tether has a first end and a second end, both first and second ends attached to the second side of the inflatable cushion, such that a portion of the inflatable cushion is located between attachment
- 20 locations of the first and second ends.

5. The airbag assembly of claim 4, wherein the external tether has a length shorter than a length of the portion of the inflatable cushion located between attachment locations of the first and second ends of the external tether.

5 6. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein each loop in the fabric of the inflatable cushion extends in a direction toward the inside of the inflatable cushion, such that each loop has at least two sides which extend in a direction substantially parallel to the direction each loop extends.

10 7. The airbag assembly of claim 6, wherein the first internal tether is attached to a side of the loop on the first side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop, and the first internal tether is attached to a side of the loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop.

15 8. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein each loop in the fabric of the inflatable cushion extends in a direction toward the outside of the inflatable cushion, such that each loop has at least two sides which extend in a direction substantially parallel to the direction each loop extends.

20 9. The airbag assembly of claim 8, wherein the first internal tether is attached to the sides of the loop on the first side of the inflatable cushion, on the inside of the loop, and the first internal tether is attached to the sides of the loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion, on the inside of the loop.

10. The airbag assembly of claim 1, further comprising a second loop in the first side of the inflatable cushion and a second loop in the second side of the inflatable cushion, and a second tether located on an internal side of the inflatable cushion, the second internal tether attached to and interconnecting the second loop on the first side and the second loop on the second side.

11. The airbag assembly of claim 10, further comprising a third loop in the first side of the inflatable cushion and a third loop in the second side of the inflatable cushion, and a third tether located on an internal side of the inflatable cushion, the third internal tether attached to and interconnecting the third loop on the first side and the third loop on the second side.

12. The airbag assembly of claim 1, wherein the first internal tether has a width shorter than a distance that the first side of the inflatable cushion can be separated from the second side.

13. The airbag assembly of claim 1, further comprising an inflator for inflating the inflatable cushion.

14. The airbag assembly of claim 13, wherein the inflator inflates the inflatable cushion to an internal pressure between about 6 pounds per square inch and about 14 pounds per square inch.

15. The airbag assembly of claim 14, wherein the inflator inflates the inflatable cushion to an internal pressure between about 10 pounds per square inch and about 14 pounds per square inch.

16. A knee airbag assembly, comprising:
- an inflatable fabric cushion having a first side and a second side, the first and second sides being opposite each other;
- at least one loop being formed in the fabric of the first side;
- 5 at least one loop being formed in the fabric of the second side; and
- two or more tethers located on an internal side of the inflatable cushion, each internal tether attached to and interconnecting a loop on the first side and a loop on the second side.
- 10 17. The airbag assembly of claim 16, further comprising a tether located on an external side of the inflatable cushion, the external tether being attached to the fabric of the second side of the inflatable cushion.
- 15 18. The airbag assembly of claim 17, wherein the external tether has a first end and a second end, both first and second ends attached to the second side of the inflatable cushion, such that a portion of the inflatable cushion is located between attachment locations of the first and second ends.
- 20 19. The airbag assembly of claim 18, wherein the external tether has a length shorter than a length of the portion of the inflatable cushion located between attachment locations of the first and second ends of the external tether.

20. The airbag assembly of claim 19, wherein each loop in the fabric of the inflatable cushion extends in a direction toward the inside of the inflatable cushion, such that each loop has at least two sides which extend in a direction substantially parallel to the direction each loop extends.

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21. The airbag assembly of claim 20, wherein each internal tether is attached to a side of at least one loop on the first side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop, and each internal tether is attached to a side of at least one loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop.

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22. The airbag assembly of claim 19, wherein each loop in the fabric of the inflatable cushion extends in a direction toward the outside of the inflatable cushion, such that each loop has at least two sides which extend in a direction substantially parallel to the direction each loop extends.

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23. The airbag assembly of claim 22, wherein each internal tether is attached to the sides of at least one loop on the first side of the inflatable cushion, on the inside of the loop, and each internal tether is attached to the sides of at least one loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion, on the inside of the loop.

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24. The airbag assembly of claim 21, further comprising two loops in the first side of the inflatable cushion, two loops in the second side of the inflatable cushion, and

two internal tethers, such that each internal tether is attached to and interconnects a loop on the first side and a loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion.

25. The airbag assembly of claim 21, further comprising three loops in the
5 first side of the inflatable cushion, three loops in the second side of the inflatable cushion, and three internal tethers, such that each internal tether is attached to and interconnects a loop on the first side and a loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion.

26. The airbag assembly of claim 21, wherein each internal tether has a width
10 shorter than a distance that the first side of the inflatable cushion can be separated from the second side.

27. The airbag assembly of claim 26, wherein the inflatable cushion is formed
15 from one continuous sheet of fabric material.

28. The airbag assembly of claim 27, further comprising an inflator for
inflating the inflatable cushion.

29. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the inflator inflates the
20 inflatable cushion to an internal pressure between about 6 pounds per square inch and about 14 pounds per square inch.

30. The airbag assembly of claim 28, wherein the inflator inflates the inflatable cushion to an internal pressure between about 10 pounds per square inch and about 14 pounds per square inch.

31. A knee airbag assembly, comprising:

an inflatable cushion formed from one continuous sheet of fabric material, the inflatable cushion having a first side and a second side, the first and second sides being opposite each other;

5 a plurality of loops formed in the fabric of the inflatable cushion, such that about one-half of the plurality of loops are formed on the first side and about one-half of the plurality of loops are formed opposite on the second side, where each loop extends in a direction toward the inside of the inflatable cushion;

a plurality of tethers located on an internal side of the inflatable cushion, each
10 internal tether attached to a side of a loop on the first side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop, and each internal tether is attached to a side of a loop on the second side of the inflatable cushion, on the outside of the loop;

a tether located on an external side of the inflatable cushion, the external tether being attached to the fabric of the second side of the inflatable cushion; and

15 an inflator that inflates the inflatable cushion to an internal pressure between about 10 pounds per square inch and about 14 pounds per square inch.

32. The knee airbag assembly of claim 31, wherein the plurality of loops comprises four loops, and the plurality of internal tethers comprises two internal tethers.

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33. The knee airbag assembly of claim 32, wherein the plurality of loops comprises six loops, and the plurality of internal tethers comprises three internal tethers.

34. A method of constructing a fabric knee airbag that can withstand high internal pressure, comprising:

obtaining a continuous fabric sheet;

forming two or more loops in the sheet;

5 folding the sheet in half, such that at least one loop is located on an opposing side of the sheet from another loop;

attaching a first tether inside the airbag to at least one loop and attaching the first tether to at least one loop on the opposing side of the sheet, such that the first tether interconnects a pair of opposing loops; and

10 sealing a perimeter of the folded fabric sheet so that the airbag can retain inflation gases.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising attaching a second tether to an external side of the airbag, such that the airbag fabric underneath the second tether is
15 loose when the second tether is pulled tight.

36. The method of claim 34, wherein the loops extend in a direction toward the inside of the inflatable cushion and the first tether is attached to a side of each loop of the pair of opposing loops, on the outside of each loop.

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37. The method of claim 34, wherein the loops extend in a direction toward the outside of the inflatable cushion, and the first tether is attached to both sides of each loop of the pair of opposing loops, on the inside of each loop.